DECLASSIFIED

It blew hard and rained all morning. I was informed that the wind off the coast had attained a speed of 180 miles an hour. Flights out of Renfrew Airport, near Glasgow, have been cancelled. It was also necessary to scrub out our proposed cruise by boat down the Clyde. Instead, I drove with Secretary of State Maclay, and Sir Robert McLean, to the Hillington Industrial Estate, one of many developments to attract factories to this district. We were accompanied by a party of a dozen, as well as by two detectives, a motorcycle escort, and a police car, as was the case all day, and as has been done last week in Liverpool. I do not know whether this was a simple mark of courtesy, or whether it was prompted by apprehension lest Ban-the-Bomb demonstrators might cause trouble. Actually, there was a small posse of placard-carrying anti-bomb men and women outside the hotel, who shouted as I entered "Do you want to kill our children?" The Hillington Estate, of about 30 acres, is now used on lease by several large companies, including Burroughs/ Remington Rand Westclox, and IBM. An excellent salmon river runs through it. We crossed on a ferry to Renfrew Airport, which had now been declared clear. This was a deception. Because of what was almost a hurricane, the plane from London was unable to land, and had gone on to Prestwick. I went to the latter place by bus, a two-hour trip. After a wait, and a drink with the station commander, the Vanguard took off for London, and due to tailwinds, we made the journey in 55 minutes, which seems to have broken all records for propeller planes.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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February 17, 1962 - Saturday

I found at the office this morning a message from the President for immediate delivery to the Prime Minister. It dealt with the US Government's concern over the contents, a summary of which was officially

UNCLASSIFIED

20 Prince's Gate,
London, S.W.7.

February, 1962.

NEW C-17-81

I consider it my duty to bring to your notice an issue which has been kept in suspense for the past 17 years, and has been causing increasing damage and apprehension.

Britain and the United States have hitherto withheld their formal endorsement of the western frontiers of Poland which were defined by the Allies at Potsdam in 1945. The Potsdam Agreement assigned to Poland the territory lying east of the Oder and Neisse rivers, and prescribed the transfer of the German population from that area to Germany. Both of these injunctions were duly carried out and this territory has since 1945 been governed and reconstructed by the Polish State. It today incorporates a settled, entirely Polish population totalling 9 million.

The policy, which is advocating postponement of the recognition of the western Polish frontiers, is based on the following assumptions:

1. Recognition would be interpreted as a concession to Russia.

2. Refusal to do so may be useful as a means of pressure either on the Soviet Union or Western Germany, whichever circumstances might demand.

In other words, the frontiers between Germany and Poland are regarded as a conceivable subject of barter in negotiations concerning Berlin and the unification of Germany.